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**MIRANDA WARNINGS (RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT)**

**Directions:** Read the following scenarios to determine whether you agree or disagree that the person’s confession should be admitted into court. Then, explain your answer on the lines provided.

**THE CASE OF BENNY**

Benny was arrested by New York Police and charged with the armed robbery of a taxicab driver.  While he was in jail waiting for his trial, a New York undercover officer was placed in Benny’s cell.  Before the officer asked any questions, Benny said that he had robbed the cab driver.  Benny’s statement was used against him at trial, even though he later complained that he had never been read his rights like the Fifth Amendment is supposed to guarantee him.

**Should the judge allow this confession in court?** YES NO

**Your Explanation:**

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**THE CASE OF JIM**

Pennsylvania police officers arrested Jim on suspicion of shooting a taxicab driver in the head, and then burying the body nearby.  Jim was read his Miranda rights, and said he wanted to speak to a lawyer.  On the way to the station, the police began talking to each other about the taxicab driver’s family, while Jim listened in the back seat.  Then, without warning, Jim admitted to the murder.  At his trial, he argued the police had coerced (pressured) him into admitting to the murder, and that his rights had been violated.

**Should the judge allow this confession in court?** YES NO

**Your Explanation:**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**THE CASE OF ROBERT**

Robert was driving 40 mph in a 25 mph zone when he saw the flashing lights of a patrol car behind him.  He pulled over to the side of the road.  The officer approached him, and requested that he step outside of the vehicle.  Robert stepped out of the car, and the officer asked him whether or not he was aware of how fast he was going.  In response to the officer’s questioning, Robert admitted that he had been speeding.  At his traffic hearing, Robert argued that he was interrogated without receiving his Miranda warnings.

**Should the judge allow this confession in court?** YES NO

**Your Explanation:**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**THE CASE OF CASSANDRA**

A Maryland State police officer arrested Cassandra for shooting her boyfriend outside of her apartment in Owings Mills. She claimed it was self-defense, but was cuffed and put in the car. The officer had to drop off a warrant at another station, so he delivered it before taking Cassandra to jail. While they were driving, he asked what the fight had been about. She would not like prison, the officer said. Eventually, she broke down in tears and explained that things had gotten out of hand and she was sorry for shooting him.

**Should the judge allow this confession in court?** YES NO

**Your Explanation:**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**THE CASE OF MICHAEL**

After getting into a fight that left his co-worker John unconscious, Michael called 911 for help. When emergency services arrived, John was pronounced dead from trauma to the head. Michael claimed that John had tripped and slammed his head against the desk. While being detained and questioned by an officer in another room, Michael saw John's body being wheeled out and confessed in tears that he had hit him with a paperweight.

**Should the judge allow this confession in court?** YES NO

**Your Explanation:**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**THE CASE OF JENNIFER**

Jennifer was arrested after stealing a car from a Honda dealership off Eastern Avenue. She was read her Miranda rights while being cuffed and was then taken to jail. A detective from the robbery and homicide unit questioned her for an hour. She asked for a lawyer and was given one, but shortly after the lawyer left, Jennifer did the exact opposite of what her lawyer advised her to do. She confessed to the crime, hoping to get an easy sentence. This was the only evidence police had because the stolen car was never found.

**Should the judge allow this confession in court?** YES NO

**Your Explanation:**

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